

UTLA Strike, Day 2

7 messages

Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 8:16 PM

To: Bari Sherman <[REDACTED]>, Deb Christenson <[REDACTED]>, Emily Yukich <[REDACTED]>, Jonathan Lopez <[REDACTED]>, Kevin Doyle <[REDACTED]>, Kevin Doyle <[REDACTED]>, Peter Sheehy <[REDACTED]>, Steve Barrett <[REDACTED]>, Susan Nickerson <[REDACTED]>, Tim Kusserow <[REDACTED]>, Tim Kusserow Assistant <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>, Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>, Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>, Brooke Goldberg <bgoldberg@newlosangeles.org>

Dear New LA Board,

I am writing with an update on Day 2 of the UTLA strike. We did not have strike activity at the Middle School, but teachers from Baldwin Hills continued to block the entrance to our lot this morning at the Elementary School. We ran carline from the Baldwin Hills Rec Center to minimize interaction with them. LAPD showed up and notified the teachers that it is illegal to block the lot. They disbursed after carline ended. Aside from the disruption to operations, the protests remained relatively calm.

I have attached a photo from the Washington Post of the Baldwin Hills teachers on the picket line from Monday. As the caption reads, a Baldwin Hills teacher is quoted saying, "the district has given a charter school space at a predominately African American school, which no longer has a computer lab or art room." As we have known from the start, our time at Baldwin Hills has limits, and this situation has increased the pressure.

On a personal note, I will share that I side with LAUSD teachers on most of what they are asking for. In fact, these asks are the reason why we exist--smaller class sizes, adequate staffing, opportunities for students, and fair pay for teachers should be non-negotiable for all public schools. But the ways in which UTLA leadership has seized this opportunity to fuel the movement against charter schools like ours is disheartening.

Best wishes,
Brooke

Brooke Rios
Executive Director
New Los Angeles Charter Schools
1919 S. Burnside Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90016
T: 323.939.6400
F: 323.939.6411
www.NewLosAngeles.org



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Peter Sheehy <[REDACTED]>

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